

FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

11/27/2009

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SUPERCHARGE YOUR READING WITH NOVELIST

On November 24th, Sheri Somerville (Alaska State Library) taught a lunchtime webinar on Novelist, a readers advisory service for all Alaskans. Whether you're looking for the next legal thriller or something to read to your toddler, Novelist has something for you. Check out Sheri's presentation slides at <http://asl-education.pbworks.com/f/NovelistAdultOnline.pdf> to learn how to make Novelist work for you. Novelist can be accessed from the Digital Pipeline at <http://sled.alaska.edu/databases/home.html> by choosing "Literature."

SIX OF ALASKA'S PUBLIC LIBRARIES ARE LIBRARY JOURNAL STARS

Congratulations to the public libraries in Haines, Unalaska, Petersburg, Seward, Soldotna, and Healy for being named Library Journal Star Libraries this week. LJ announced the first set of starred libraries in February 2009. The first set of winners was determined on the basis of the 2006 public library statistics, while the second round announced this week is based on the 2007 public library statistics. Only 12 states have more starred libraries than Alaska: including New York, Ohio, Kansas, California, Massachusetts, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Colorado, Nebraska, Minnesota, and Texas. Read more about LJ's Star Libraries at: <http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6705689.html>. (Thanks to Patience Frederiksen for this item.)

ANCHORAGE PUBLIC LIBRARY TO CHARGE FOR ILL

According to a 11/24/2009 entry on the Anchorage Public Library Blog at <http://anchoragepubliclibrary.wordpress.com/2009/11/24/interlibrary-loan-fee/>, APL will begin charging their users a \$3.00 Interlibrary Loan fee starting January 1, 2010.

SHI LECTURE SERIES CONTINUES

The Sealaska Heritage Institute has added an additional lecture to their Native American Month series. Selina Everson and Ethel Lund will give a joint lecture on Monday, Nov. 30, on the Alaska Native Sisterhood (ANS). This lecture, like the other SHI lunchtime lectures given this month, will be recorded and available at <http://www.sealaskaheritage.org/news/index.html>.

If your library, archives or museum has posted an internet video of a recent lecture, class or other event, please send the URL to *Friday Bulletin* so we can highlight it for your colleagues across Alaska.

MAXINE & JESSE WHITNEY MUSEUM FACEBOOK PAGE

Wendy Goldstein of the Maxine & Jesse Whitney Museum in Valdez wrote us last week to say that her museum has a Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/pages/Valdez-AK/The-Maxine-Jesse-Whitney-Museum/104864524253>. The page has 35 fans so far and includes photos of museum items. Postings have been about recent events and invitations for community members to offer input about the Museum.

BP DONATES \$1 MILLION TO ARCHIVE STEVENS' PAPERS

Fairbanks, Alaska—A \$1 million BP donation to the University of Alaska Fairbanks will allow the Rasmuson Library to catalog and process more than 4,500 boxes of papers and media from the congressional career of former U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens.

The donation, made in partnership with the North to the Future Foundation, will span two years. UAF announced the gift at a Wednesday evening donor reception. It will allow the library to hire staff to catalog and preserve Stevens' public policy papers, digitize audio and visual materials, create an online exhibit and electronic catalog, and maintain the collection.

"BP is glad for the chance to help make this rich collection accessible to students, researchers and others who wish to learn about the remarkable career of Sen. Ted Stevens and his enduring influence on the state of Alaska," said Phil Cochrane, vice president external affairs for BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc.

Stevens deposited his papers and records at Rasmuson Library earlier this year. They span his four decades in the U.S. Senate and include documents, audio and video recordings, and other media from some of the most pivotal moments in the state's history, from the passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to the construction of the trans-Alaska pipeline to the creation of a missile defense system based primarily in Alaska. Processing the papers is expected to take several years.

"This significant donation will permit us to process, preserve, describe, and provide digital and on-site access to a treasure trove of critical historical documents in Alaska's history," said James Huesmann, dean of libraries at UAF. "Sen. Stevens' contributions to Alaska, the nation and the world have been immense and these primary documents will help later generations of researchers, students and citizens understand his impact on our lives and the lives of those to come."

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DELIVERING BOOKS AND FOOD TO PATRONS

An interesting idea from the Association for Rural and Small Libraries mailing list:

“Hello Everyone,

Here’s an idea I’d like to share.

We are a very small rural library in an isolated area of northern California that has no bookmobile so one of my staff had an idea that we might be able to have library books delivered along with the meals on wheels.

We contacted the director of the meals on wheels program and sent interest questionnaires to their clients. The clients were interested in the program but were concerned that delivering books would delay the meal delivery. The interested clients then filled out a request form that listed the authors, titles, genre, etc. that they would like to receive.

We’ve made the process easy for the delivery person by limiting the clients to 2 books at a time. The books are placed in large envelopes with the client’s name so that they can be delivered along with the client’s meals.

If you have questions about specific details, I would be glad to hear from you,

Linda Kaufmann, Library Manager, Del Norte County Library (CA). Email: delnortelibrary.kaufmann@charterinternet.com” (Thanks to Patience Frederiksen for this item.)

NAVAJO NATION LIBRARIAN SERVES PEOPLE, WINS AWARD

Linda Wynne shared this inspiring article through the Alaska Native Issues Roundtable mailing list:

“Here's a great article from NMAI's news service about Irving Nelson and his work at the Navajo Nation Library. Mr. Nelson also received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museums conference last month.

<http://www.americanindiannews.org/2009/11/people-unsung-hero-has-a-million-books-to-check-out/>.”

If you’d like to subscribe to the Alaska Native Issues Roundtable mailing list, please visit <http://akla.org/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi>.

FINDING GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS ONLINE

If you or your patrons have 20 minutes, they can learn a lot about finding free government information on many topics by watching *Searching for free government full text docs online* presented by Holly Harper. The presentation is available at <http://www.opal-online.org/FullTextGovDocsOnline/> and is part of the training series presented by the Government Printing Office. It is best viewed using Internet Explorer. Watch as Holly shows how government information can answer questions like:

- How are the reintroduced wolves in Yellowstone Park affecting the park's ecosystem?
- What kind of research is the government doing with renewable energy?
- What is (was) TALON?

Holly also shows a number of browseable indexes and illustrates that there government information isn't just written reports. A list of links mentioned in the presentation can be found at

<http://whitehall.schoolwires.com/10911011224513830/blank/browse.asp?a=383&BMDR N=2000&BCOB=0&c=53385>.

If you or your patrons have more questions about finding a piece of government information after watching this video, contact your nearest Federal Depository Library which you can find at <http://catalog.gpo.gov/fdlpdir/FDLPdir.jsp>. You can also ask government information questions of a national consortium of Federal Depository Libraries by visiting Government Information Online at <http://govtinfo.org>.

POLISHING LITURGICAL BRASS

If your collection includes older brass materials or you are in contact with a house of worship, you should check out Alaska State Museum staffer Ellen Carrlee's 11/21/09 blog entry "Polishing Liturgical Brass." The entry is available at <http://ellencarrlee.wordpress.com/2009/11/21/polishing-liturgical-brass/> and is a well illustrated mini "how-to" manual that was originally created for the St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church in Juneau by Dave Harvey. According to Dave, the three biggest rules to keep in mind when polishing liturgical brass are:

1. Polishing is abrasive. You are sanding off the surface of the metal.
2. Solvent fumes are serious
3. Getting well set up is half the battle.

The manual also suggests cleaning supplies and other equipment.

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